



# INDIANA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT EAST PIKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2011

Mr. Donald Springer, Principal  
www.iasd.cc

Telephone #: 724-463-8567  
Fax # 724-717-1080

## PRINCIPAL NOTES...

I feel certain that this newsletter piece will find you wondering where September has gone. It is hard to believe that we have over five weeks of school under our belt. Time does fly when you are having fun. That is exactly what has been happening at East Pike.

It is safe to say that the pace around here has picked up quite a bit since opening day. This morning I made time to stand out front and greet the children as they arrived. I cannot tell you how many pleasant comments I received and smiling faces I saw from your children. It started my day out on a warm and positive note. I found out that today is going to be a great day because....

- I have a new pair of shoes.
- I have new blue sunglasses that match my earrings and bows.
- My mom packed me a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.
- I have gym today.

It is so easy for us to get caught up in the moment trying to solve problems, get to work or an appointment that we all forget about the simple things in life. Your children see life from a naive and simple view that we need to visit at times to clear our thoughts and heads. Happy children and a strong cup of coffee make a great start to the day.

## Dates to Remember

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Oct. 7	Act 80 Day- Dismissal at 11:45 AM
Oct. 10	Act 80 Day- NO SCHOOL/Columbus Day
Oct. 26	Make-Up Pictures
Oct. 28	Fall Classroom Parties
Nov 1	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter

## COUNSELORS' CORNER

We are continuing our Bully-Free Initiative this year with a kick off assembly, ongoing morning announcements and classroom meetings. I wanted to remind all of you what bullying is defined as and what a student should do in the event of bullying happening to them.

It's important to distinguish bullying from normal play. In normal play, it is normal for conflict to occur. This normal conflict presents natural opportunities for children to hone their conflict-solving skills...and for you to coach them in how to identify the problem at hand, brainstorm ways of solving it, compromise to come to an agreement with everyone involved, and make a plan that will keep the problem from happening again in the future.

Bullying is not normal play. Through the Olweus program: bullying is when someone repeatedly and on purpose says or does mean or hurtful things to another person who has a hard time defending himself or herself. There are three key components of bullying behavior to be aware of:

1. An **aggressive/hurtful behavior**
2. It typically involves a **pattern of behavior repeated** over time
3. There is an **imbalance of power or strength.**

If your child is dealing with bullying:

- Help by getting as much information as possible about the situation.
- Avoid blaming anyone, including the child who is bullying.
- Look carefully at your own child's behavior in the situation and at your child's typical style of interacting. Perhaps you can identify some particular social skills that would strengthen your child and decrease the chances that your child would be seen as an easy target for bullying.
- Discuss and role-play or practice different bullying scenes, allowing your child to gain experience and confidence with alternatives to responding to bullies.



In math, we will continue our study of place value and time. Students will read and write numbers through the hundred thousands and tell time to the nearest half hour and quarter hour.

Thanks to all the parents who were able to attend Back-to-School Night. Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

#### **4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

Fourth graders will all be in Chorus this year! Mrs. Sasala is excited to have so many wonderful voices, and is looking forward to the first concert! Also, all students have the option of taking instrumental lessons with Dr. Rummel, and will be part of the band. Those students taking lessons are encouraged to practice regularly and to make up any work missed while absent from the classroom.

Fourth graders also travel from their homerooms to other classrooms during the day. This means that students need to take needed materials with them to classes outside homeroom.

Most importantly, attendance in fourth grade is vital since many of our lessons involve work that can only be done in the classroom setting. We are trying to keep our students healthy with frequent hand washing. A healthy diet, plenty of sleep, and keeping hands away from the face can also ward off the flu. However, if your child is absent, we need you to call the office to request homework before 10:45.

#### **5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

There are several tools in your student's math folder to help master multiplication facts with speed and accuracy. This will be helpful as we find products for whole number and decimal problems, solve multiple-step problems, and use estimates to check for reasonable answers. We will be using calculators to check our work. We will also be solving Money Matrix and TIGO puzzles to enhance our problem solving work.

#### **FROM THE NURSE**

Another school year is well under way and things are busy in the Nurses office. I would like to thank all the parents who returned their student emergency cards. Most parents were thrilled with the new, pre-filled cards. There are only a few cards left to come in. If your student hasn't returned their cards, you have gotten another one to fill out.

Please do so quickly, as this is our only means of contacting you.

Your child (ren) may have told you that they were weighed and measured recently. This is part of the state mandated screening process. You should have received a letter via the US mail containing BMI information. We will also be conducting vision and hearing screenings in the near future. Lots to do during the school year! Please refer to your student handbook with regards to medicines given at school. Every medicine, whether over the counter or prescription requires a doctor's order. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate calling or e-mailing me. (724) 463-8567 or bmauk@iasd.cc

#### **TITLE I**

Our annual Title I parent meeting, entitled ***Breakfast and Books***, will be held on Wednesday, October 26, from 8:30 to 10:00 am. It will take place at East Pike in room A-1. Families of children receiving Title I services will have an opportunity to meet Mr. Springer, the Title I Coordinator, and the reading specialists from each school. Each attending family will learn about their child's reading level and will have the opportunity to choose ***free books*** from a current book order! Please look for the invitations to come home with your child and reply by **October 14<sup>th</sup>**. We hope to see you there!

#### **CAFÉ NEWS**

If you have not submitted a new Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application since July 1, 2011, your status from the previous year will expire October 10, 2011. At that time you will be charged the full price for meals until a new application is filed. Please obtain an application form from your school or the district administration office.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Congratulations to the following students for winning their age group in our East Pike NFL Pass, Punt and Kick Competition. They will represent East Pike in the sectional competition on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at the Indiana Senior High.

Tanner Angnello

Cormack Pagnucci

Kaylee BeckerGeorge

Matthew Rutledge

Allisyn Arotin

## **SAFETY ISSUES**

Please notify Mrs. Mauk if you need to use crutches, a wheelchair or have any other physical mobility concerns. This is important so I can arrange for your safety here at school, especially during fire drills.

### **INDIANA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

#### *Mission Statement*

Indiana Area School District is committed to excellence in educating our students to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens in a changing global society.

## **GIRL SCOUTS**

A Girl Scout Daisy Troop is forming at East Pike for girls in Kindergarten and 1st grades who are not already in a troop! We are looking for girls who want to join in on the fun and excitement of Girl Scouts! Meetings will be held twice a month on Thursdays, meeting time will be decided by the group. Registration Fee for Girl Scouts is \$12.

For more information, please contact: Dottie Neal, 724-357-8855 or Georgenne Gillespie, 724-463-3421

Girls in 2nd and 3rd grades who are interested in joining the brownie troop at East Pike, contact troop leader Missy Marsh at 724-840-1635 or [countrybab7@aol.com](mailto:countrybab7@aol.com). East Pike Brownies meet every other Wednesday after school till 5:00pm.

Girls in 4th and 5th grades who are interested in joining the junior troop at East Pike, contact troop leaders Betty George at 724-465-8928 (home) or 724-464-1195 (work) and Cindy Sybert at 724-357-8556 (home) or 724-388-5318 (cell) or [cynthia\\_sybert\\_1968@verizon.net](mailto:cynthia_sybert_1968@verizon.net). East Pike Junior Girl Scout Troop 40805 meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 6:30-8:00pm.